

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 8-11 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Also, please amend claims 2 and 15 as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A mobile communication system comprising at least one mobile communication network; at least one service center for point-to-multipoint services; and at least one network node through which a point-to-multipoint service is transmitted to cells belonging to a destination area, the geographical destination area of the point-to-multipoint service being indicated in the system as a logical name, wherein

the system comprises memory means for mapping each predetermined logical name to one or more network element addresses of the system, and a service center is arranged to inquire, in response to a received service request, from the memory means the addresses of the network elements corresponding to the logical name of the destination area and to transmit the point-to-multipoint service via the network elements to the geographical destination area.

2. (Currently Amended) The mobile communication system according to claim 1, wherein

the service center is also arranged to check whether the network element address is the address of a second service center and, if yes, to transmit the service request to the second service center.

3. (Previously Presented) The mobile communication system according to claim 2,

wherein

the memory means are arranged to link to the address of the second service center associated with the logical name a second logical name corresponding to the logical name in the service area of the second service center, and

the service center is arranged to replace the logical name given in the service request with said second logical name before the service request is transmitted to the second service center.

4. (Previously Presented) The mobile communication system according to claim 1, wherein

the logical name of the destination area can be determined by means of at least two logical names and their intermediate logical operator, the logical operator indicating how the areas of the logical names relate to each other, and

the memory means are arranged to map the logical name of the destination area that is formed by the two or more logical names and the intermediate logical operator between successive names to one or more network element addresses of the system.

5. (Previously Presented) A method for transmitting a point-to-multipoint service of a mobile communication system to a destination area of the service indicated as a logical name in a service request, the mobile communication system comprising at least one mobile communication network, at least one service center for point-to-multipoint services, and at least one network node through which the point-to-multipoint service is transmitted to the cells located within the destination area,

the method comprising the steps of:

 determining logical names for geographical destination areas of the service;

 maintaining an address list for each logical name in the mobile communication network, the address list being used for mapping a logical name to one or more network element addresses of the system;

 receiving a service request at a first service center, the service request indicating the destination area as a logical name;

 mapping the logical name by means of the address list to one or more network element addresses, and

 transmitting the service via the network elements to the geographical destination area.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, the method comprising the steps of:

 checking the address of each network element;

 if the address is an address of a second service center, forwarding the service request to it; and

 if the address is a network node address, transmitting the service via the node to those cells in the service area of the node that belong to the destination area of the service.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 5, the method comprising the steps of:

determining at least one logical operator for indicating the destination area by using at least two different logical names and their intermediate logical operator; mapping each logical name to one or more network element addresses; and combining the network element addresses as determined by the logical operator.

8-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) An area register which forms part of a mobile communication system comprising at least one network, the network comprising a service center for point-to-multipoint services for transmitting a point-to-multipoint service to a geographical destination area indicated in a service request, the destination area being indicated as a logical name, wherein the area register comprises:

a list of logical names for at least one service center and at least one network element address list of the system corresponding to each logical name in order to allow a logical name to be mapped to at least one system network element address; and processing means for receiving inquiries concerning the logical names and for replying to the inquiries.

13. (Previously Presented) The area register according to claim 12, wherein the processing means are arranged to

identify logical operators and map the logical name of a destination area formed by two or more logical names and an intermediate logical operator between successive names to one or more network element addresses of the system.

14. (Previously Presented) The area register according to claim 12, wherein at least one logical name is divided into logical names of a lower hierarchical level so that the geographical destination area of the logical name of the higher hierarchical level is formed of the geographical destination areas of the logical names of the lower hierarchical level.

15. (Currently Amended) The area register according to claim 12, comprising updating means for adding logical names to and for removing them from the list of logical names and for adding network element addresses to and for removing them from the network element address list (72, 73).

16. (Previously Presented) A service center for transmitting point-to-multipoint services in a mobile communication system to a geographical destination area of the service, the service center comprising reception means for receiving a service request, the service request having a destination area that can be indicated as a logical name, wherein the service center further comprises:

inquiry means for mapping the logical name given in the service request to at least one network element address of the system; and

transmission means for transmitting the service to the destination area via each network element.

17. (Previously Presented) The service center according to claim 16, comprising: control means for checking whether a network element is a second service center; and

if yes, the transmission means are arranged to forward the service request to the second service center.

18. (Previously Presented) The service center according to claim 16, comprising:
load means for monitoring the load of the service center itself and that of the second service center; and
determining means responsive to the load means for re-determining the service area of the second service center.